

Prefixes de-, fore-, im-, micro-, anti-

devalue	foreshadow	improper	microcosm	antitoxin
desegregate	foresight	Improvident	microscope	antisocial

A PREFIX IS A WORD PART THAT IS ADDED TO THE BEGINNING OF A WORD AND CHANGES ITS MEANING.

de- means "down" or "away from"

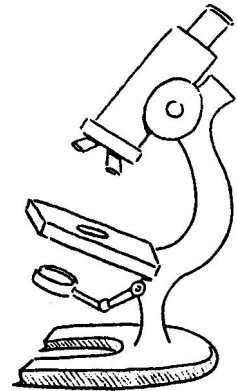
fore- means "in front of"

im- means "not"

micro- means "small"

anti- means "against"

A microscope is an instrument that makes small things look larger.



Devalue means "to reduce the value of something."

Desegregate means "to end segregation."

If you foreshadow something, you indicate it beforehand.

Foresight is wisdom. / Improper means "not according to standards."

Improvident means "not careful in providing for the future."

A microcosm is a little world. / An antitoxin makes the body safe from disease.

If you are antisocial, you are not sociable.



A. Read the words in each row. Circle the word that means almost the same thing as the vocabulary word.

1. foresight	forego	wisdom	foreground
2. improvident	imprudent	interesting	immigrate
3. antisocial	antecedent	gregarious	unfriendly
4. improper	improbable	unseemly	impulsive
5. devalue	increase	deregulate	lower
6. foreshadow	presage	foreshorten	forgive

B. Add the correct prefix to each word to form a new word. Use the meaning clue in parentheses to help you.

- | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------|--------------|-------|-------|
| 1. (away from) | _____ | segregate | 2. (small) | _____ | scope |
| 3. (small) | _____ | cosm | 4. (against) | _____ | toxin |

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A. Use what you know. Write the best word to complete each sentence.

- Grandma says it is _____ to wear a baseball cap at dinner.
- A law was passed to _____ the nation's schools.
- Often, an author will _____ an event by bringing it up earlier in the story.
- A hermit is usually an _____ person who prefers to be alone.
- The young man was _____ with his money and didn't worry about the future.
- Dad had the _____ to keep a first aid kit in the car.
- That fish tank is a _____ of the ocean.
- The government will _____ the exchange rate of currency next week.
- This serum contains an _____ for diphtheria.
- The students studied slides under a _____

B. Read each question. Choose the best answer.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. What is spitting? | <input type="radio"/> improvident | <input type="radio"/> improper | <input type="radio"/> improvement |
| 2. Which shows foresight? | <input type="radio"/> forgetting | <input type="radio"/> worrying | <input type="radio"/> planning |
| 3. Which one's a literary term? | <input type="radio"/> foreshadow | <input type="radio"/> antisocial | <input type="radio"/> microcosm |
| 4. Which one's improvident? | <input type="radio"/> spendthrift | <input type="radio"/> earner | <input type="radio"/> saver |

~ Writing to Learn

Explain how a prefix changes the meaning of a word. Use at least four vocabulary words as examples.